



# Department of Homeland Security Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 10 November 2003

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



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## Daily Overview

- Government Executive Magazine reports the Department of Homeland Security is studying various proposals to counter the threat of shoulder-fired missiles on U.S. commercial aircraft. (See item [12](#))
- The Associated Press reports at least 130 people contracted hepatitis A in an outbreak at a Mexican restaurant about 25 miles northwest of Pittsburgh. (See item [17](#))
- The Associated Press reports whether to let illegal immigrants obtain licenses has become part of the country's debate over immigration and national security, with politicians in several states wrestling with the issue. (See item [19](#))

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## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *November 07, Associated Press* — Nuclear waste processing plant to open soon. Hundreds of shipments of processed nuclear waste could be on their way out of Tennessee when the \$200 million Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in New Mexico opens by January. Facilities at the plant will process highly radioactive wastes and package them in a form believed safe for shipment and disposal. Some wastes have been stored for decades and are remnants of the first nuclear operations in Oak Ridge, TN, dating to the World War II

Manhattan Project. The plant will process wastes in liquid, solid and sludge forms. All the wastes are radioactive, and some of them are among the hottest ever stored at the site. The supernates, a liquid waste, will be the first wastes processed at the facility. **Once dried and repackaged, those materials will be loaded into casks and trucked to Nevada for disposal.** About 280 shipments are expected, said Gary Riner, the U.S. Department of Energy project manager overseeing the project. The sludges and solids containing "transuranic" elements – such as plutonium, curium and americium – will be packaged later and transported to the WIPP underground repository at Carlsbad, NM. More than 550 shipments of transuranic waste are planned for New Mexico.

Source: <http://www.bayarea.com/mld/mercurynews/news/local/7203270.htm>

2. *November 07, Associated Press* — **Police officers went fishing while on terrorism patrol. Five police officers assigned to protect a power plant from possible terrorism went fishing at a nearby lake instead, and were once seen in uniform cleaning the fish they had just caught, according to disciplinary records.** A lieutenant, a sergeant and three other officers were disciplined for fishing while on duty and another sergeant was disciplined for not reporting the others, according to records obtained by the Austin American–Statesman. **Most of the officers were assigned to the Decker Creek Power Plant near Austin, TX, as part of the department's Homeland Defense Unit. The lake is part of the plant's property.** Internal affairs investigators received a complaint in June that the officers were fishing while they were supposed to be patrolling at the plant, according to the memos. Police cited a number of department violations, including continuing to fish after being ordered to stop and instructing plant security guards to allow fellow officers onto the facility to fish. Assistant Police Chief Rick Coy said homeland security assignments will now be rotated to prevent similar incidents.

Source: [http://abcnews.go.com/wire/US/ap20031107\\_1236.html](http://abcnews.go.com/wire/US/ap20031107_1236.html)

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## **Chemical Sector**

3. *November 07, Houston Chronicle* — **Barge leaking sulfuric acid. Federal and state experts were monitoring air and water quality Thursday in Texas City, TX, where a barge leaking sulfuric acid capsized in southwest Galveston Bay. The vessel, carrying 235,000 gallons of the liquid, turned over in about 30 feet of water about 6 p.m. Monday at the Sterling Chemicals plant dock and rolled on its side about 7 a.m. Wednesday, said Coast Guard Petty Officer Andy Kendrick. Workers trying to right the vessel, and about 30 employees of chemical plants and office buildings within a half-mile of the scene, were evacuated Thursday when the barge began to bulge, apparently from chemical reactions, Kendrick said. Crews hope to drill a hole in the barge today to relieve the pressure and then resume attempting to right it and remove the acid, Sulfuric acid levels were low near the barge and air monitors had not detected unusual amounts of the chemical, Dave Bary, spokesman for the Environmental Protection Agency, said Thursday.**

Source: [http://www.chron.com/cs/CDA/ssistory.mpl/metropolitan/220685\\_2](http://www.chron.com/cs/CDA/ssistory.mpl/metropolitan/220685_2)

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## Defense Industrial Base Sector

4. *November 07, Washington Post* — **Pentagon agrees to compromise on tanker deal.** The Pentagon agreed on Thursday, November 6, to abandon its plan to lease and then buy 100 Boeing Co. 767 tankers, accepting a cheaper compromise that clears the way for final congressional approval and ends a two-year battle over the program. **The Air Force will lease 20 tankers, which refuel fighter jets in flight, instead of 100, and buy the remaining 80. The deal reduces the original \$21 billion cost by \$4 billion, according to the Senate Armed Services Committee.** The revised plan will be included in the 2004 defense authorization bill that the House and Senate are expected to approve soon. The compromise calls for an outlay of billions of dollars earlier in the program than the original lease required — payments that the Air Force had hoped to avoid. As a first step in trying to resolve a future funding crunch, the time frame for payments was lengthened beyond the provisions of the original plan. The Air Force will take delivery of the last plane in 2014 instead of 2011 and will continue to make payments until 2017.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A9843-2003Nov6.html>

5. *November 07, Associated Press* — **Audit finds weapons problems. Improperly stored weapons and problems with inventory and training were among the problems found in an audit of the New Mexico Army National Guard.** However, the audit conducted by the National Guard Bureau also found the New Mexico Guard has recently made tremendous progress in improving physical security management. Brigadier General Kenny Montoya requested the audit shortly after becoming state adjutant general in late April. **Audits in 2000 and 2002 had turned up security problems at the Guard. Shortly before Montoya's appointment, an officer with the Guard testified before a House committee about missing equipment that included guns and a high tech combat radio.** The auditors spent a week in New Mexico and found improperly locked weapons racks at several units.

Source: [http://www.krqe.com/expanded3.asp?RECORD\\_KEY%5BLargeHeadline%5D=ID&ID%5BLargeHeadline%5D=2151](http://www.krqe.com/expanded3.asp?RECORD_KEY%5BLargeHeadline%5D=ID&ID%5BLargeHeadline%5D=2151)

6. *November 05, USA Today* — **Rumsfeld says 85,000 slated for Iraq troop rotation. America's part-time troops will shoulder a much larger share of the front-line burden in Iraq next year than they do now, according to a troop-rotation plan announced Thursday, November 6, by the Pentagon.** The military is planning to increase the number of troops from the National Guard and Army and Marine Corps reserves from 28,700 now in Iraq to 39,000 by May. The percentage of part-time soldiers in Iraq will climb from 22% now to about 37% by May, because the Bush administration is planning to decrease overall U.S. troop levels from 130,000 to 105,000 while increasing the total number of Guardsmen and reservists in the mix. **The move raises questions about how well the part-time forces will handle combat, and what the intensified role for part-time troops will do to home-front morale and to the military's efforts to lure and keep enough troops to maintain robust part-time forces.** In Afghanistan and Iraq, the small numbers of Guard and reserve combat troops already there have generally performed well, Defense officials say.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/iraq/2003-11-05-us-iraqtr oops\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/world/iraq/2003-11-05-us-iraqtr oops_x.htm)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

7. *November 07, South African Press Association* — **Three held over alleged passport scam.** Three people were arrested in Johannesburg, South Africa on Friday, November 7, on charges of being involved in a passport scam, a national police spokesperson said. Captain Ronnie Naidoo said three people were arrested in Spritz Avenue, Selby, about 11 a.m. during a police operation. Nine South African passports, 76 Namibian and Swaziland passports, templates, and various equipment used to manufacture passports were seized, he said. **He said they had reasonable suspicion that the establishment was also used to manufacture fraudulent passports of other countries.** They would be charged with fraud, contravening the identity document act, and possession of forged documents, Naidoo said.  
Source: [http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?click\\_id=15&art\\_id=qw106822530284B265&set\\_id=1](http://www.iol.co.za/index.php?click_id=15&art_id=qw106822530284B265&set_id=1)

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## **Transportation Sector**

8. *November 09, Department of Homeland Security* — **Coast Guard closes the Port of Jacksonville.** The Coast Guard Marine Safety Office in Jacksonville, FL, has closed the Port of Jacksonville to commercial vessel traffic until further notice after a 50 to 60-foot dredge in the vicinity of Blount Island capsized spilling about 600-feet of dredge pipe into the St. Johns River about 12:20 a.m. on Sunday. A tugboat hit the dredge pipe breaking it into two sections that are reported to be between Blount Island and the Intracoastal Waterway. One of the sections of pipe also hit buoy #27 and has moved the buoy off station. The Coast Guard is encouraging all pleasure craft to stay out of this area until the dredge pipe can be recovered. **The Coast Guard will conduct a joint survey of the river with the St. Johns Bar Pilots to determine what actions are necessary to open the port to commercial traffic as soon as possible.**  
Source: <https://www.piersystem.com/external/index.cfm?cid=586&fuseaction=EXTERNAL.docview&pressID=24494>
9. *November 07, Associated Press* — **Germany to allow hijacked planes to be shot down.** Germany's Cabinet on Wednesday, November 5, approved a measure to allow the military to shoot down hijacked airliners over German airspace if they are deemed to pose a threat. This leaves the decision to act with the federal government, not the military, under an agreement reached after weeks of talks. **The proposal, which requires parliamentary approval, says the defense minister or a Cabinet-appointed deputy can decide to have the plane shot down 'as a last resort.'** Air force interceptors could be scrambled for such a mission from two bases and could reach any place in Germany within 15 minutes, Defense Minister Peter Struck said. The hijacked aircraft would have to pose an immediate danger in German airspace, directly threaten people's lives and have failed to respond to orders to land and warning shots.  
Source: <http://www.straitstimes.asia1.com.sg/latest/story/0.4390.218.726.00.html?>

10.

*November 07, Associated Press* — **Car chase closes runway. The north runway at Sky Harbor International Airport in Phoenix, AZ, was closed for more than 20 minutes Thursday, November 6, while police chased two people who crashed a stolen car through a perimeter fence and got onto the airfield, an airport spokesperson said.** A man and a 17-year-old boy were in police custody early Friday, November 7, as a result of the chase that began about 10:40 p.m. Thursday in Guadalupe, said Sgt. Paul Chagolla, a Maricopa County Sheriff's Office spokesperson. The incident began when a sheriff's deputy spotted a stolen car in the Phoenix suburb and attempted to stop it, Chagolla said. The car fled onto Interstate 10 and exited near the Phoenix airport, officials said. **Airport spokesperson Jeanine L'Ecuyer said the car crashed through a fence just north of Terminal 3 and traveled onto the airfield. At that point, Sky Harbor's north runway was closed, she said.** Although the airport's two other runways were operational during the incident, L'Ecuyer did not immediately know whether aircraft scheduled for the north runway were redirected or grounded. Although she could not provide an exact number, L'Ecuyer said that because it was so late at night, there were few aircraft using the runway.

Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/1107Sky-Harbor-Chase-ON.html>

11. *November 07, Newsday* — **TSA cutbacks at LaGuardia. The federal Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has removed all government screeners from LaGuardia Airport, located in New York, between 11:30 p.m. and 4 a.m. and turned security over to private guards.** The change, which began Sunday, November 2, will cut costs as the two-year-old airport security agency faces pressure from Congress to reduce spending. The guards, hired by airlines, will monitor passengers who arrive on late flights, making sure they leave the concourses. Before Sunday, TSA screeners stayed at LaGuardia until the last incoming flight each day to monitor late-arriving passengers. **TSA spokesperson Mark Hatfield said the guards will perform no screening and will work only after the final outbound flight has left LaGuardia each day, which usually is between 11 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.** The change at LaGuardia also means that late-arriving airport employees will no longer go through security checkpoints but instead will get into secure areas through doors activated by card keys.

Source: [http://www.newsday.com/news/yahoo/ny-uslag07q3529032nov07.0\\_6381056.story](http://www.newsday.com/news/yahoo/ny-uslag07q3529032nov07.0_6381056.story)

12. *November 07, Government Executive Magazine* — **DHS reviewing proposals to counter shoulder-fired missile threat. The Homeland Security Department (DHS) is sifting through 24 proposals to counter the threat of shoulder-fired missiles on U.S. commercial aircraft,** a senior department official told lawmakers Wednesday. At least two contract awards are expected to be made in January as part of a science and technology program to counter the threat of "man-portable air defense systems" (MANPADS), said Stephen McHale, deputy administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, in written testimony to the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee. McHale said the threat posed by MANPADS is of "credible concern," even though the department does not have specific intelligence indicating that an attack on commercial aircraft in the United States is likely. **"MANPADS are widely available on black or gray markets around the world," McHale said. "Even an unsuccessful MANPADS attack on a commercial airliner would have a devastating economic and political impact. As you can well imagine, this is a serious and complex issue with no single solution."**

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/1103/110703c1.htm>



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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Agriculture Sector**

13. *November 07, Michigan Ag Connection* — **New agriculture security tool. The Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) now has two mobile emergency supply units and has equipped its veterinarians with personal emergency response kits, both of which are key to the state's emergency preparedness efforts and bolstering its agrisecurity capabilities, announced MDA Director Dan Wyant.** Wyant explained that the units are 16-foot trailers stocked full of a two-week supply of various gear and items that the state's veterinarians may need to quickly respond to animal health situations due to a natural disaster, a disease outbreak like Foot and Mouth Disease, or an intentional act of animal-related terrorism. They are equipped with generators so any potential power outages won't hinder response efforts. **He also said that about 50 personal emergency response kits have been sent to both Lansing-based and field veterinarians and technicians across the state and include biosecurity items like coveralls and booties and safety gear like respirators.** The trailers and kits are funded by \$64,000 in federal homeland security dollars provided to states through the U.S. Department of Agriculture to help shore up local emergency preparedness as well as response capabilities.

Source: <http://www.michiganagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=82&yr=2003>

14. *November 07, Ohio Ag Connection* — **OARDC researchers lead fight against chicken virus. The second-leading cause of viral disease in chickens, Infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV), is an immuno-suppressive disease that attacks young birds, killing them or making them more susceptible to other infectious agents.** Discovered in the U.S. in the late 1950s, the virus favors chickens younger than seven weeks old. "This is a big economic problem," said Daral Jackwood, a researcher with the Food Animal Health Research Program (FAHRP) at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC). **"Immuno-suppressed birds have more respiratory and intestinal diseases, grow slowly, and do not respond to vaccinations for other diseases. Infected flocks have a higher mortality rate."** He is now conducting an epidemiology study to inventory IBDV strains present in the nation. The inventory will let the U.S. poultry industry know which viruses are most prevalent, where in the country they are present, and how dangerous they are. It will also provide vital information for the development of vaccines. **As part of their work on IBDV, FAHRP researchers are developing additional diagnostic tools, such as monoclonal antibodies, to detect potential outbreaks of the virus in the U.S. more accurately.**

Source: <http://www.ohioagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=51&yr=2003>

15. *November 06, USAgNet* — **U.S. cattle shipment diseased. South Korea says eight of 762 live cattle imported from the United States have tested positive for blue tongue, an**

**insect-borne viral disease that is harmless to humans but possibly fatal to cows. The affected cows have been destroyed and the other cows would be re-examined, with their quarantine extended by more than 40 days, the agriculture ministry said in a statement Wednesday.** "We told the U.S. government about the blue tongue disease case," the ministry statement said. "We emphasized that only disease-free cows would be allowed to South Korean farms via our international-standardized, scientific, thorough import quarantines." The U.S. cows arrived at the Korean ports of Pusan and Incheon between October 21 and 24, departing from the U.S. port of Dalles, Oregon on September 28, the statement said.

Source: <http://www.usagnet.com/story-national.cfm?Id=1199&yr=2003>

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## **Food Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Water Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Public Health Sector**

**16. *November 07, BBC News* — Injections in poor countries unsafe.** Many injections given in the developing world are unsafe; **World Health Organization researchers found up to 75 percent of injections were given with re-used, unsterilized equipment, increasing infection risk.** Re-use was highest in South East Asia, the Middle East, and the Western Pacific. The researchers are calling for greater efforts to hammer home the importance of good hygiene. They also say single use injection devices must be made more easily accessible. **It is thought the use of unsafe injections is a major cause of the spread of viruses which cause a range of serious diseases, including hepatitis B and C, HIV, abscesses, septicaemia, malaria, and hemorrhagic fevers.** The researchers found that overall almost one in three injections in developing and transitional countries were administered using re-used and unsterilized equipment. **They also found too many injections were routinely administered, with each person in these countries receiving an average of 3.4 injections per year.** This is partly due to public demand, the researchers accept, but also stress that health workers seem too keen to offer injections when other, potentially safer methods are available.

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/3246241.stm>

**17. *November 06, Associated Press* — Hepatitis A in Pennsylvania.** At least 130 people contracted hepatitis A in an outbreak at Chi-Chi's Mexican restaurant at the Beaver Valley Mall, about 25 miles northwest of Pittsburgh, authorities said **Thursday.** At least two people were in critical condition. The Pennsylvania Health Department is investigating the cause of the outbreak. **Officials suspect the virus was spread by a worker who failed to wash his or her hands before handling food. An estimated 5,000 people dined at the**

**restaurant between October 22 and Sunday.** Health Department spokesman Richard McGarvey said officials ordered 8,000 shots of immune globulin, an antibody treatment that greatly reduces the chances of contracting the disease if given within 14 days after exposure. About 2,800 people were immunized Wednesday and 2,400 more Thursday, McGarvey said. Source: <http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2003-11-06-hepatitis-out break x.htm>

18. *November 06, Associated Press* — **CDC to grade states' bioterror plans.** The government soon will begin grading how well states are prepared for bioterrorism and other health emergencies, including how many could immediately open mass-vaccination clinics if a single case of smallpox occurred anywhere in the world. **Exactly how to measure public health preparedness is still being worked out, although the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) hopes to test a scoring system in January and to have full-fledged evaluations under way next summer.** Just how prepared a state is may differ dramatically depending on the threat. Ten cases of smallpox in New York would require a different response than 10 cases scattered across the nation or "one case in outer Mongolia," noted Dr. Brian Strom of the University of Pennsylvania, chairman of an Institute of Medicine committee that reviewed CDC's plans Thursday. **States are supposed to develop comprehensive programs that include ways to catch early warning signs of disease, track outbreaks, train doctors, and communicate with the public.** The CDC will hire an independent group to conduct the evaluations, which in part will account for how states have spent roughly \$3 billion in federal funds for preparedness. Source: [http://abcnews.go.com/wire/Living/ap20031106\\_1773.html](http://abcnews.go.com/wire/Living/ap20031106_1773.html)

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## **Government Sector**

19. *November 09, Associated Press* — **Illegal immigrants push for driver's licenses in Illinois.** Immigration advocates say many illegal immigrants in Illinois are driving despite not having a license, not passing a driving test, and having no insurance. **Whether to let illegal immigrants obtain licenses has become part of the country's debate over immigration and national security, with politicians in several states wrestling with the issue.** In Illinois, the Senate narrowly rejected a proposal allowing licenses for illegal immigrants last week, but sponsors vow to bring it back for another vote. About a dozen states let illegal immigrants get licenses, and Sen. Miguel del Valle, D-Chicago, sponsor of the Illinois bill, said those states have seen the number of uninsured motorists drop sharply. **Opponents say the practice encourages illegal immigration and threatens national security because a driver's license can be used to board commercial airliners or get a hazardous materials license.** Steven Camarota, director of research at the Center for Immigration Studies in Washington, D.C., calls the proposal "an enormous slap in the face to everyone who plays by the rules and came here legally." "It is our de facto ID, so by giving it to illegal aliens, you make their lives easier," Camarota said. "By giving them this ID, if they mean to do us harm, that certainly advances their ability." Source: <http://www.wbbm780.com/asp/ViewMoreDetails.asp?ID=30450>

20. *November 07, USA Today* — **Terror alerts have been refined.** Nearly six months ago, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge expressed concern that local governments and



citizens were starting to tune out his office's nationwide terrorism alerts and the color-coded warning system that accompanied them. Since then, the Bush administration's new approach to alerts has become clear: It's not issuing them as often. **After issuing four terror alerts during the first eight months the U.S. government's color-coded alert system was in place, the administration has gone almost six months without imposing any.** The alert level remains at Code Yellow, meaning the government says there is an "elevated risk" of a terrorist attack. **Authorities say the lack of recent nationwide alerts doesn't mean that the factors that previously led them to raise the alert level to Code Orange (for "high risk" of an attack) are not still present.** Intelligence analysts continue to get information from around the world on threats to U.S. targets. **But Homeland Security officials say they have become better at examining and dealing with potential threats against specific regions or industries, without having to put the entire nation on alert. That has long been a goal of Secretary Ridge.**

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2003-11-06-alert-usa\\_t\\_x.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/washington/2003-11-06-alert-usa_t_x.htm)

21. *November 07, Federal Computer Week* — **DHS still working on info-sharing plans.** The nature of homeland security operations often requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to share data with counties and local municipalities, and how that happens will be part of the department's enterprise architecture plan. **DHS has given its architecture document to the National Association of Chief Information Officers and some municipalities offered input. Version 1.0 of the DHS enterprise architecture was unveiled in October, just four months after work started on the plan.** In the next six months, DHS officials expect the agency's enterprise architecture blueprint will let them closely examine back-office operations to explore consolidation and economies of scale in areas such as procurement and human resources. The document's long-term goal is to help the department and its agencies develop a solid business case for programs, applications and systems. **To make sure programs are on target and in line with the National Strategy for Homeland Security, they're measured against DHS' enterprise architecture plan,** Steve Cooper, DHS' chief information officer, said last week. **Although it is quite broad now, the document will be developed in even more detail to the point where a border agent can find out his role and responsibilities.**

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/geb/articles/2003/1103/web-dhs-11-07-03.asp>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

22. *November 09, Washington Post* — **Police, fire radios are overhauled. A technology and public safety team has been all over the Washington, DC in recent weeks, visiting scores of nightclubs, apartment buildings, offices and other places as they tested the city's new emergency communications system. The troubleshooters targeted locations where emergency radios previously were apt to cut out, if they worked at all.** Now, thanks to \$40 million in improvements, police officers, firefighters and emergency medical crews are getting more dependable, clear signals, officials say. The system has been up and running since late September. Rick Burke, a wireless technology manager for the city, and a public safety team recently concluded weeks of crisscrossing the city to test it. They found that the changes have made a big difference in signal strength and sound quality, Burke said. **"It's a major improvement. The city and its first responders are much safer now having a highly**

**reliable, state-of-the art communications network," Burke said.** District officials are touting the system as one of the most advanced in the nation. The federal government footed most of the bill in an aid package approved after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The fire department contributed nearly \$3.5 million to the venture.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A18095-2003Nov 9.html>

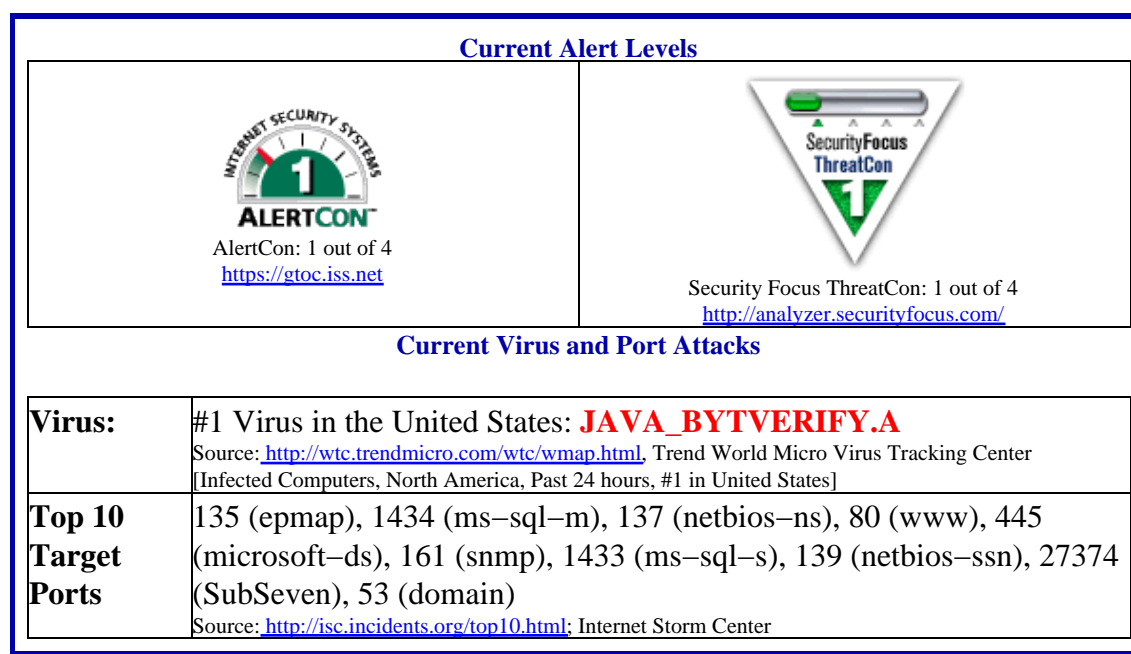
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## **Information and Telecommunications Sector**

**23. November 07, EE Times — FCC to consider new regulations on VoIP services.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) said Thursday, November 6, it has scheduled a December 1 hearing on regulatory issues raised by the emerging voice technology. Shortly after the forum, **FCC officials said, the agency will launch a review into the migration of voice services to IP-based networks.** The VoIP push comes in response to congressional pressure to speed the deployment of IP networks that have been resisted by incumbent carriers who have millions of dollars invested in traditional public-switched networks. **While industry watchers are split on the likelihood that VoIP can gain ground on the installed telecom base, chip industry analysts have said it could soon help propel sales of components like DSPs.** The technology has been slow to catch on in the United States. One reason is that **large businesses have been reluctant to rip out their existing telecom networks and replace them with a largely untested IP-based services** that experts agree offers more functionality. Incumbent carriers seeking to protect their installed base have also resisted VoIP.

Source: <http://www.crn.com/sections/BreakingNews/dailyarchives.asp?ArticleID=45852>

### **Internet Alert Dashboard**



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## General Sector

24. *November 09, CNN* — **Saudis to hunt down al Qaeda bombers. Saudi Arabia pledged Sunday to track down those linked to a suspected al Qaeda bomb attack on a Riyadh residential neighborhood that killed at least 11 people, including four children, and wounded 122.** "We will get the perpetrators no matter how long it takes," Interior Minister Prince Nayef told Saudi state television as he inspected the devastated compound. "All those who are propelled to do these acts must stop or surrender because it would be better for them and their salvation. There is no crime more heinous than this." **The attackers stormed the affluent neighborhood near Riyadh's diplomatic quarter late Saturday, first firing on security guards and then driving their explosives-laden cars through the gates.** Sources told CNN's Caroline Faraj the attackers had apparently stolen a jeep from Saudi security forces to disguise themselves. Saudi guards opened the gate upon seeing the jeep before the attackers opened fire, the sources said. The subsequent explosions destroyed much of the neighborhood and killed or wounded dozens of residents, journalists and officials in Riyadh told CNN. **The compound is thought to have housed mainly Arab expatriates.**  
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/meast/11/09/saudi.explosion/in dex.html>
25. *November 07, Reuters* — **Gunshots heard at seized Manila airport tower. Philippine security forces opened fire Saturday, November 8, on a former aviation chief and his men who seized the control tower at Manila's airport over complaints about corruption, with gunshots heard over live radio. Panfilo Villaruel, a former pilot and air force officer, entered the tower just before midnight Friday, November 7, with two armed bodyguards and told employees to leave, an Air Transport Office (ATO) official and a senior security official at the airport said.** "We are being killed here," Villaruel said on live radio as shots and groans could be heard in the background, "we surrender." Villaruel earlier told local radio he was fed up with corruption in the government and that he was representing Filipinos who were scared to speak up. He said he had 12 armed men with him.  
Source: [http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=574&ncid=721&e=1&u=/nm/20031107/wl\\_nm/philippines\\_airport\\_dc](http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=574&ncid=721&e=1&u=/nm/20031107/wl_nm/philippines_airport_dc)
26. *November 07, CBS News* — **U.S. warns of Saudi terror threat. The United States closed its missions in Saudi Arabia on Saturday, November 8, for an undetermined period because of "credible" information that terrorists are about to carry out attacks, the U.S. Embassy said Friday.** On November 3 Saudi police uncovered a cell believed linked to al Qaeda network in the holy city of Mecca. **Police believe the cell had planned to carry out attacks during Ramadan.** The alert came a day after two suspected militants, believed to be members of the Mecca cell, blew themselves up in the holy city to avoid arrest. A third suspect was killed in a shootout with security forces in Riyadh.  
Source: <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2003/10/24/terror/main579968.shtml>
27. *November 06, U.S. Department of State* — **Public Announcement: Middle East and North Africa.** The Department of State reminds U.S. citizens traveling to the Middle East and North Africa that there remains a potential threat to U.S. citizens and interests in the region posed by those harboring anti-American sentiments, including the risk of attacks by terrorist groups. The U.S. Government remains deeply concerned about the security of U.S. citizens overseas. **Credible information has indicated terrorist groups may be planning attacks against U.S.**

interests in the Middle East. Terrorist actions may include suicide operations, bombings, hijackings or kidnappings. These may also involve commercial aircraft and maritime interests. While conventional weapons such as explosive devices are a more immediate threat in many areas, use of non-conventional weapons, including chemical or biological agents must be considered a possible threat. Terrorists do not distinguish between official and civilian targets. Increased security at official U.S. facilities has led terrorists and their sympathizers to seek softer targets such as public transportation, residential areas, clubs, restaurants, places of worship, hotels, schools, outdoor recreation events, resorts and beaches. Source: [http://travel.state.gov/meu\\_announce.html](http://travel.state.gov/meu_announce.html)

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## **DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information**

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

[DHS/IAIP Warnings](#) – DHS/IAIP Assessments, Advisories, and Alerts: DHS/IAIP produces three levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that address cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

[DHS/IAIP Publications](#) – DHS/IAIP Daily Reports, CyberNotes, Information Bulletins, and other publications

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